

**SUPPLEMENTARY HUMAN DIMENSION MEETING  
ON  
HATE CRIMES –  
EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF LEGISLATION**

**4 - 5 May 2009  
Hofburg, Vienna**

**General Guidelines**

**The modalities of the meeting are set out in accordance with the decision of the Permanent Council (PC.DEC/476, 23 May 2002)**

**1. Aim of the Meeting**

The SHDM will examine the effectiveness of hate crime laws in participating States focussing on the question of implementation. This meeting will provide an opportunity to discuss how to improve the investigation and prosecution of hate crimes, and share good practices.

The meeting will focus on the following three areas:

- Legislation on hate crime
- Improving the policing and prosecution of hate crimes
- Special challenges posed by violent hate groups

Recommendations may be addressed to the participating States, the OSCE as a whole, OSCE institutions including the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, as well as the OSCE field operations, or other inter-governmental or nongovernmental organizations, as well as other civil society actors and National Human Rights Institutions in OSCE participating States.

**2. Participation**

Representatives of the OSCE participating States, OSCE Institutions, and OSCE field operations, representatives of international governmental organizations, representatives of non-governmental organizations and other civil society actors will participate in the Meeting.

The 'Partners for Co-operation' are invited to attend and contribute with respect to their co-operation and links with the OSCE in the field.

### **3. Guidelines for the Debates**

The intention is to develop a free-flowing discussion based on the keynote speeches, introductory remarks, background information and written statements circulated in advance or during the Meeting. To this end, formal interventions in the form of prepared statements are not envisaged in the course of the Meeting and are discouraged.

Prepared statements, background documentation, comments or written materials may be submitted in advance for circulation by the Documents Distribution Centre.

### **4. Organization**

On-line registration for all participants is available at <http://meetings.odihr.pl>  
In case of any questions, please contact Ms. Anna Sierant at [Anna.Sierant@odihr.pl](mailto:Anna.Sierant@odihr.pl)  
or at tel.: +48 22 52 00 627 or Ms. Aleksandra Pietrowska at  
[Aleksandra.Pietrowska@odihr.pl](mailto:Aleksandra.Pietrowska@odihr.pl) or at tel: +48 22 52 00 778.

In addition, advance registration will be available on Monday, 4 May 2009, from 9.00 in the Hofburg Congress Centre, in the main entrance hall. Registration during the Meeting is available at the same place.

### **5. Other**

Side Events may be held in the course of the two days. Additional information on the content and objectives of any side event, as well as timing and duration will be made available shortly on the website of the Meeting.